



## Kentucky Artisan Center at Berea

*Tourism, Arts and Heritage Cabinet*

### Artist Randal Richardson to Demonstrate Oil Painting Techniques at Kentucky Artisan Center at Berea

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**Contact: Gwen Heffner**

**Kentucky Artisan Center at Berea**

**859-985-5448, ext. 230**

**[gwen.heffner@ky.gov](mailto:gwen.heffner@ky.gov)**

**BEREA, Ky.** – On Saturday, March 14, Randal Richardson, of Paint Lick, will demonstrate his oil painting techniques from 10:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at the Kentucky Artisan Center at Berea.

Born and raised near Shelbyville, Richardson began his artistic career as a young boy. His first drawings were made on church bulletins, to keep himself quiet during church services. At age 14 he was commissioned to draw a portrait of a hunting dog – owned by his dad's best friend.

"I came to oil painting early on," he said. "I purchased my first set of oil paints at the Ben Franklin store and painted on wood and anything I could get my hands on."

Later on, Richardson attended Eastern Kentucky University, where he met the artist and now retired professor Ron Isaacs.

"Ron Isaacs is a master artist, and I soon realized his incredible talent," Richardson said. "Ron Isaacs was an amazing influence and he set the standard for me as an artist."

Richardson went on to make kaleidoscopes for many years, jurying into the Kentucky Guild of Artists and Craftsmen and the Kentucky Arts Council's Kentucky Crafted Program.

Having recently returned to painting, Richardson has begun to use an oil painting technique that achieves a faster drying time. With the addition of paint thinner to his oil paint, he brushes the paint onto his canvasses in thin layers. Using a hair dryer, he then speeds up the drying process of the normally slow-drying oil paint.



"Tumbleweed Daydream" by Randal Richardson

Paintings by Richardson are regularly available at the Kentucky Artisan Center at Berea, located at 200 Artisan Way, just off Interstate 75 at Berea, Exit 77. The center's exhibits, shopping and travel information areas are open daily, year-round, from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., and the cafe is open from 9:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Admission is free.

The Kentucky Artisan Center at Berea currently features works by more than 700 artisans from more than 100 counties across the Commonwealth. A special exhibit, "Turn, Turn, Turn: Lathe-Turned

Works by Kentucky Artisans,” is on display through Sept. 12, and in the lobby the exhibit, “Kentucky Murals by Frank W. Long” continues through April 18. For more information about events call 859-985-5448, go to the center’s website at [www.kentuckyartisancenter.ky.gov](http://www.kentuckyartisancenter.ky.gov) or on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/kentucky.artisan.center](https://www.facebook.com/kentucky.artisan.center).

The Kentucky Artisan Center at Berea is an agency in the Tourism, Arts and Heritage Cabinet of the Commonwealth of Kentucky.